

MYSTERY WITH MILLIONS IN IT

THE MURDER, FORGERY AND PLOT WHICH KEEP PARIS GUESSING.

Holder of a Title and Fortune Founded in the Reign of Isabella II. of Spain Alleged to Be an Impostor—Shuts Brought to Eject Him—And All That New Declared to Be Another Plot.

Paris must have its sensation, and the latest Boulevard thrill is uncommonly romantic. This sensation has to do with the mystery of the Casa Riera millions, piled up during the merry days of Isabella II. of Spain.

The sensation had been going along rather easily—a kind of a milk and water sensation, the Boulevard voted it—until last week, when puff came the climax. And now it involves a charge of forgery and a counter charge of another forgery. It entangles a syndicate controlled by some of the most prominent figures in Parisian society. Back of it is the romance of two capitals which includes a double murder and the machinations of a typical Eugene Sue villain.

To begin at the beginning, in the '60s, when the corrupt and merry court of Isabella II. was about to fall, the richest man at court was the Marquis de Casa Riera, before his prosperity plain Thomas Philip Mora. He was a peasant by birth, but his fortune came by genius. He started his fortune early in life, and built it up by operations in the Spanish colonies. He made this fortune so indispensable to the court, that Isabella advanced him rapidly. He became at last a grandee of the realm and a court chamberlain.

The Marquis's wife, was a peasant girl, daughter of a farmer. She had married her for his own money, she was a little girl, had been educated as a lady should be, and married her when she was 18. Their house was a gay one. One of the picturesque figures in their suite was a handsome West Indian mulatto, the Marquis's valet and practically his major domo. The valet was almost as well known in Madrid as the Marquis himself.

The time came when the first child was born to the Marquis. Tradition in Madrid says that it was a quadroon, and that the Marquis took the vengeance of a Spanish gentleman built on peasant groundwork. He killed his wife, her child, her negro paramour and another negro servant whom he suspected of being an accomplice. The event was covered in Spain, he went to the Queen and told her everything. As a grandee, he could hardly be touched by the law of the old monarchy. Besides his fortune was needed by the dying dynasty. The Queen kept his secret, but ordered him to leave Spain.

This story is accepted in Madrid. It is for nothing the Marquis was marked for revenge again, and the Marquis never lived again in the mansion in Madrid.

He went to Paris and took most of his wealth with him. He invested in city property, built a mansion and improved the surrounding lands, and his wealth grew. When, after the Revolution, the dynasty was overthrown in Spain, he went back there to sit in the Senate, in which his rank gave him a place. Alfonso XII. it is said, made good use of his wealth.

Up to this point the story is accepted as true by all persons concerned. The quadroon murder has never been denied.

In the '70s the Marquis came back to Paris from Spain with two men of mystery. One was introduced by the Marquis as Don José Mora, his nephew and heir. The other, following Spanish custom, was a major domo, a sort of steward of the house. He, too, was supposed to be a relative. He was called Don Alejandro. According to those who are attempting to break his claims—for he is the present holder of the estate—he was a deep, mysterious villain of unknown origin, one whose plot involved forgery, perjury and sudden death. As alleged by the claimants, here is the subsequent story of the fortune of Casa Riera.

In 1881 the old Marquis died. A will was produced at once. It made his nephew Don José Mora, sole heir to his properties and the title. The will was not registered, and which gave the property to a first cousin, a ninety-year-old peasant of Barcelona. Old, and probably ignorant, he did not press his claim at all. He had devoted his life to the estate. In two months he died suddenly.

Then Don Alejandro, the heavy villain, came out and took to the open. He was the first time that he was a brother of Don José and therefore an heir. At the same time, he produced another alleged brother, one Don Gonzalo. Neither of them could produce any legal documents to prove this. They had a fairy story to tell about archives destroyed in the wars which had devastated Spain.

Don Alejandro must have been a persuasive talker as well as a heavy villain, for he was over the French court, always rather lax in such matters, especially when claimants are foreigners. The notary who adjusted the case put them in possession. This was done, and the two brothers, dark hints of graft. And then—Gonzalo promptly died. The story is touched up at this point with the tale of a woman, the widow of the conspirator, Don Gonzalo left a widow and two children. They did not press any claim.

The widow took a centre stage at this point in sensational manner. She wanted to marry a Capt. Angolotti. There was opposition brought about, for some reason of his own, by Don Alejandro. He had a way of beating opposition in Spain. All that is necessary to legal marriage there is a promise before witnesses. A former Spanish Consul named Souleire seems to have been very near the centre of things, and a priest, the Abbe Couraud, was either their accomplice or their tool. The man who approached certain rich men in Parisian society with the story given above, the Abbe added that there was a real brother of Don José, but he died in 1878, three years before the death of the first Marquis de Casa Riera. To prove it, he showed the death certificate of the real Alejandro Mora.

It is comparatively easy in Paris to get money for a romance and a sensational project, as witness the Humbert case. Several rich men were persuaded, and they founded a syndicate to fight the case. The Marquis de Dion, automobile enthusiast and leader in Parisian society, gave his money and influence. M. Paulmier, member of the Chamber, was enrolled and others followed. Old Don Alejandro, now Marquis

de Casa Riera, laughed at the charges and bade them go ahead. The case came up for examination last month.

Then enters a Parisian newspaper with a detective reporter. The main secret to report to Spain to look into the alleged certificate of death. He has just wired back to his newspaper that the document is a forgery, plain and simple, that there was no "other" Don Alejandro, and that some corroborative evidence offered to bolster up the death certificate is equally false.

The syndicate was uproariously angry. They came down hard on the Abbe, and the Abbe passed the buck to Senator Souleire, who promptly dropped out of affairs—vanished. He regarded by the syndicate as the "nigger in the woodpile."

It has been suggested that Souleire is a survivor of the gang which worked the notorious Humbert case, who swindled all Paris with tales of big estates waiting claimants. If this is true, he has a pleasant prospect. One of his subordinates, so to speak, against the present Marquis, that is one of the incidents employed of season the story is that the Casa Riera wealth was used to bolster up the Humbert case. It was alleged that when those clever swindlers needed to show money to prop up their financial standing, they borrowed bonds by the million from the Marquis. He yielded up gracefully, because they were "on to him"—because the underworld sharpers had informed the Humberts, who held their information over the Marquis.

The old Marquis has not spoken yet. The members of the syndicate are reported as feeling a little uneasy.

BUTT, PREFET OF POLICE.

News to Mayor McClellan, Who Says its McClellan's Job for Keeps.

A copy of a Paris paper caused somewhat of a sensation in the City Hall and at Police Headquarters yesterday. It reported Brig.-Gen. McClellan But of the New York National Guard as saying that the office of Police Commissioner of New York City had been offered to him. This declaration was at once taken to mean that Mayor McClellan had tried to get rid of Commissioner McClellan. There was a brief flutter until Mayor McClellan saw the French paper.

The paper was dated Sept. 12 and contained an interview with Gen. Butt, who has been following the manoeuvres at Côte d'Or, France. Gen. Butt, who is decrying the English military system, which he said hurt the soldier by hypocritical Sunday blue laws. Then Gen. Butt went on to say:

"That is a wrong, false sort of military system. I am a believer in absolute liberty in all things, restrained by salutary discipline. It is because I did not wish to be tempted to follow the lead of the Queen and told her everything. As a grandee, he could hardly be touched by the law of the old monarchy. Besides his fortune was needed by the dying dynasty. The Queen kept his secret, but ordered him to leave Spain."

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INDIANA CAMPAIGN WARMS UP

GINGER HAS BEEN PUT INTO THE DEMOCRATIC SIDE.

Republicans Realize That the Democrats Will Get Out a Full Vote—A Full Republican Vote Will Overcome This—Democrats Count on Bryan's Help.

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 8.—The Indiana campaign is increasing daily in intensity of partisan effort and the Democrats are making good the promise of National Chairman Taggart to put up a fight in this State that will keep the Republicans on the move. Whether the further promise of carrying the State for Parker can be kept is a question, but the leaders, but there is no doubt that everything possible is being done to secure that result.

With a continuous record of Republican victories for five campaigns against them and with many of the rank and file as well as the leaders discouraged and disheartened at the start, it has been a hard task to inspire confidence and awaken enthusiasm, but the leaders have imparted something of the confidence which they themselves possess to feel and the campaign is progressing along all lines with a certainty that the entire Democratic vote will be at the polls.

The Republicans realize that this will be the result of the effort now being made, and are showing greater energy than at any time since the campaign opened. They understand that the Democratic hope lies in a light Republican vote and a heavier Democratic vote proportionally to the total strength of the two parties and that, should there be a decided falling off in the Republican vote, the Democrats might carry the State.

That Indiana is Republican when the people are aroused and Democratic only when they are lulled, is a fact conceded on all hands, and the Republicans, like the Democrats, are giving more attention to organization for bringing out the vote on election day than ever before.

Indeed, there has never been a campaign in Indiana in which the individual voter was being looked after with as much care as he is now, and this is not confined to the campaign of the party, but extends to the party meetings, but is represented in the personal efforts of neighbors and friends, who are urged on by the local leaders and who are intent upon holding up their vote in the precinct or county.

Every doubtful voter in the State is known at the party headquarters through the recent poll of the precincts, and both sides are endeavoring to get the doubtful voter to follow the lead of the party. The Democrats are making their vote sure for the party it represents. So with every legal voter who is absent from the State, his present whereabouts have been learned, correspondence has been opened with him and, if need be, the money on which to return to the State and vote will be sent.

One of the developments of the last week illustrates the prejudice that is felt among Democrats and Republicans alike against the negro. It is charged that National Chairman Taggart, by acts which he has always employed in dealing with negroes, brought George L. Knox into the race for Congress in this district with the hope of defeating a large part of the colored vote from Congressmen who are negroes. Knox has got the required number of names to secure the placing of his name on the official ballot, and is making a canvass of members of his race.

In the meantime the white Democrats have begun to protest against using the negro as a candidate, and several have openly announced that they will vote for Overstreet if Knox remains in the race. On the other hand, colored ministers have been taking an active interest against Knox and have succeeded in getting a large number of the men who signed his petition for a place on the ballot to sign other petitions asking that their names be taken off.

White Republicans, who have become tired of the demands of the colored voters on the party, are urging the managers to let Knox go ahead, as they are certain that he will not poll 100 votes and he will thus be eliminated entirely from party politics. They say that Democratic prejudice against the negro may be depended upon to give Overstreet more votes than Knox will poll, and that the fact that negroes will exist in the race will give the Republican vote that might otherwise go to the Democratic candidate.

An encouraging feature of the campaign to the Republicans is the increasing number of persons who attend local political meetings and also attend the local conferences of the leaders. For ten days conferences have been held at the residences of the party leaders, and at these the attendance has been exceptionally large. The reports from these meetings show that the farmers are satisfied with existing conditions and that there will not only be no loss from this class, but actual gains from Democratic farmers.

In the labor center, where some dissatisfaction existed, the party leaders have given influential men to work and there is now little evidence of dissatisfaction.

The Democrats have been making heroic efforts to hold the miners in line for the national ticket, but Republican advice as to the effect that this has not proved successful and that many of the leading miners of the State are openly for Roosevelt. On the other hand, the miners, who have always been Republicans, are for the Democratic State ticket, and in the mining region it is expected that Frank Hanly, the Republican candidate for Governor, will run behind the national ticket. The defection, however, is not thought to be sufficient to jeopard his election, though it exists a less extent among other classes of laboring men.

The chief dependence of the Democrats for supplementing their organization with enthusiasm that will last till election day seems to be on Bryan's drawing abilities, and his tour through the State has been arranged with direct reference to overcoming the opposition of free silver Democrats and laboring men who feel specially aggrieved by the nomination of Mr. Davis for the Vice Presidency.

The fact that Bryan, who is supposed to have the best chance for a grudge of any man in the party, can lay aside all prejudice and support Parker is a source of confidence to the party, and his tour through the State will be one of the most spectacular that was ever made, a special car fitted up with every convenience will be provided, and at every speaking place he will be welcomed by large crowds and escorted by a large force of police.

The State committee is entering heartily into the plan to magnify Bryan's influence in the State, and at every place where his train will stop elaborate preparations are being made to receive him.

Benjamin Perkins Critically Ill.

Benjamin Perkins, who was president of the Continental National Bank before it was absorbed by the Hanover National Bank, is critically ill of diabetes at his home, 47 East Sixth street. Mr. Perkins is a director of the Hanover National Bank, the Manhattan Savings Bank, the Manhattan Life Insurance Company and chairman of the executive committee of the Home Insurance Company. He was further of the Union, Metropolitan and other clubs.

BEST & CO. LILIPUTIAN BAZAAR

Children's Wear Exclusively.

An establishment offering the exceptional advantages which can only result from intelligent and adequate effort concentrated upon ONE object.

Thereby insuring, in addition to all the ordinary good qualities of our Children's Clothing, Distinctiveness and Style, attainable in no other way.

Without the penalty of high price.

60-62 West 23d Street.

SPENCER DEAD IN HIS GARRET

RICH ONCE AND WENT AROUND THE WORLD ON A YACHT.

Married by President McClellan at the City Hall in 1894 to a Miss of Mrs. Van Brugh Livingston—Died of Gas Poisoning—Coroner Thinks It an Accident.

After having travelled all over the world and enjoyed most of the luxuries possible for a man of means, Harvey Spencer, the son of a merchant of this city well known in his time, was found dead yesterday morning in a small, poorly furnished room on the top floor of a boarding house at 5 East Eighth street. The rubber tubing connecting a gas jet with a drop lamp was disconnected near the upper end and the stopcock was open. Spencer had been on the floor near the bed on which was a lamp, a book and the remains of a cigar. He was in his night clothes. Coroner Scholer supposes that he fell asleep while lying on the bed reading and that his arm struck the rubber tubing, tearing it apart where it was joined.

Spencer was 46 years old. His father, Harvey, left him money and early in life he formed a friendship with a Joseph Moss White, with whom he travelled all over the world on White's yacht, returning to this country about twelve years ago. Then it was said that he had made a fortune in business in Hong Kong. White died in Paris, and in his will he instructed that all of Spencer's debts, as well as his own, be paid out of his estate. Spencer had visited with White all the countries of Europe, and so lavish were they in their expenditures that their presence excited comment wherever they went.

Spencer in 1894 married Miss Mary Livingston Strong, daughter of Joseph M. Strong of New York and a native of this city. Her marriage to Spencer, it was reported at the time, was opposed by Mr. Strong, but she went on with the ceremony. The marriage ceremony was performed by George B. McClellan, then President of the Board of Aldermen, now Mayor. Spencer, after his marriage, made his home part of the time at the Waldorf and part of the time at Delmonico's. He lost money in Wall Street, but was not a gambler. He had a friend whose name he had borrowed, and that he had been in the house and turned his hand to invention. He got up a machine to operate a typewriter in the room, and he lived with him in the boarding house until about a year ago, and then he went to New York, where he has since lived with his four-year-old daughter.

Recently Spencer had been working on a patent catch for window blinds. In the room yesterday were many evidences of more prosperous days. On a wooden table, which was bare save for an ink stand and blotter, was a heavy embossed leather portfolio with the Spencer name on it. In the room were a number of British noblemen and a few of the crowned heads of Europe.

Above this in the most conspicuous spot in the room was a picture of Spencer himself seated on the box of an English coach driving a four-in-hand. On the table was a leather portfolio with the Spencer name on it. In the room were a number of British noblemen and a few of the crowned heads of Europe.

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HE LOVES JULIA MUZZIO.

John Valerio Arrested on Suspicion That He Abducted Her.

John Valerio, 19 years old, of 135 Adams street, Hoboken, who hopes to be a boss barber some day, was locked up in that city yesterday on suspicion of having abducted a young woman, 17 years old, daughter of Joseph Muzzio of 417 Adams street. He was held as a disorderly person to give the police a chance to investigate Muzzio's story.

The father said Valerio and Julia fell in love with each other and cooked up a plan to elope. He had objected to their marriage, but they were determined to do it. He learned on Sept. 27 that the pair had arranged to defy his wishes, and he spoiled their game. He ordered the young barber never to come near Julia again and chased him out of the house. He impressed upon the girl the fact that he meant business and sent her to bed. Then he shipped her to the home of his sister, Mrs. Serafino, in Third avenue, this city, hoping to keep her away from the young barber's way. She disappeared a few days ago, and the police were asked to search for her.

Muzzio met Valerio in the street yesterday and demanded to see his daughter. The young barber denied any knowledge of the girl's whereabouts and told Muzzio to let go of his arm. Muzzio said he was a police station, "said the father in Italian, and you might as well go quietly."

The pair started off arm in arm, following a number of Muzzio's neighbors who had heard about Julia's love affair. Valerio got frightened as the crowd increased and broke away and took his flight. The father, who lives near Willow avenue and Eighth street, a distance of several blocks, and added to the youth's flight by shouting "Lynch him!" as he jumped on a passing trolley car. The crowd continued its rush down Willow avenue and Police Officer, standing on the corner of Fifth street, held up the car. He grabbed the badly frightened boy and hustled him into the street.

Muzzio tried to take the young man away from the policeman when he ran up, but was beaten off. Conlon took his prisoner to Police Headquarters without further incident and Recorder Stanton held him.

HIGGINS & SEITER

FINE CHINA, RICH CUT GLASS CHINA AND GLASS FOR EARLY FALL FURNISHING

Whatever is needed in China or Glass can be selected here from the largest assortment of china and glass in the world, and at prices averaging at least

1/4 Less than Elsewhere.

A few suggestions will suffice.

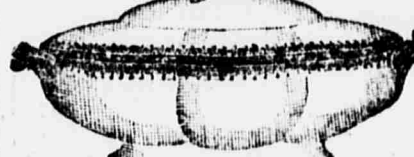
LIMOGES CHINA. Finest Limoges China dinner set; small pink flowers, with gray and sage green leaves; pattern artistically scattered over border and into centre of plates. \$22.50.

BAVARIAN CHINA. Dinner set complete. \$25.00.

100 Piece Dinner set complete \$24.35.

Several new French China Dinner sets. Six different artistic flower and spray decorations. You can select from several patterns the one that please you best at. \$18.00.

Others at \$22.50. All with clouded gold handles.



WHITE AND GOLD. One of the most popular patterns in dinnerware. The white background is overlaid with a delicate gold pattern. Complete dinner service as shown herewith. \$35.00.

This is an open stock set, and any number of pieces desired can be purchased.

Limoges and pattern of many others, all of which are equally good value.

WEST 21ST & WEST 22D STREETS, NEAR SIXTH AVE.

ARE DETECTIVE SERGEANTS.

Helwig, Nugent, Woodruff, Storey, Whitaker and Murphy in Court.

Supreme Court Justice Maddox in Brooklyn granted a peremptory writ of mandamus yesterday commanding Police Commissioner McAdoo to rank as detective sergeants Henry Helwig, Rafael R. Nugent, Henry R. Woodruff, Frederick C. Storey, Daniel Whitaker and Charles M. Murphy, and to certify them on the payrolls of the Police Department as detective sergeants with salaries of \$2,500 a year each.

These men, who were patrolmen and roundsmen in March 1, 1901, were assigned to detective duty in the central office, Brooklyn, and subsequently were detailed to the Commissioner's office. Justice Maddox in his opinion handed down yesterday says that the language of the Charter is plain, for it says that "the (the Commissioner), shall maintain a detective bureau and also that he shall select and appoint as many detectives; thereto as may be necessary for efficiency; he is required to make such selection from among the patrolmen and roundsmen, and he is necessarily called upon to determine as to the special qualification and fitness for such duty."

Justice Maddox says the men "were duly selected, appointed and assigned to the central office of detective duty in the Police Department of the city of New York, and upon such assignment they became and were then known as detective sergeants. They were either patrolmen or roundsmen, and upon being detailed to such detective duty they were entitled to all the rights and benefits conferred by the statute, and the status of each was well established. They were undoubtedly selected because of some special aptitude, and as qualified for the duties to which they were assigned."

Business Troubles.

Cusack & Co., a firm of stone contractors at Seventh avenue and 152d street, composed of Max A. Cusack of this city and George Cusack of New Orleans, are unable to meet their obligations, and Mr. Cusack of New Orleans, who is the president of the firm, yesterday to Charles B. Crook of Newark.

Deputy Sheriff Leavitt has received an execution against the Twentieth Century Press, book dealer and publisher, at 17 East Sixteenth street, for \$200 in favor of the Hamilton & Jones Envelope Company, and a keeper has been put in the store, Judge Leavitt has been ordered to enforce the company and Daniel O'Loughlin, in favor of D. Appleton & Co. for \$2,500 in favor of Louis De Jonck & Co. \$307.

H. C. F. KLOCH & CO. A Six Day Sale of China & Cut Glass

It will surpass our best—and every housekeeper will readily realize what extraordinary advantages that simple statement guarantees. Quantities are unprecedented. Prices likewise are unprecedented. Whether you come a hundred yards or a hundred miles you will be abundantly repaid.

Dinner, Tea & Game Sets.

DINNER SETS, English porcelain, blue and green spray underglaze decoration, 100 pieces, reg. \$9.00, sale price, \$7.98.

DINNER SETS, American porcelain, filled in pink rose decorations, gold tracings, 100 pieces, reg. \$10.00, sale price, \$7.98.

DINNER SETS, American china, pink rose, wreath, decoration and gold tracings, 100 pieces, with soup 9.98.

DINNER SETS, Carlsbad china, violet, pink and blue floral decorations, gold tracings, 100 pieces, including 3 plates, reg. \$12.00, sale price, \$12.98.

DINNER SETS, Theodore Haviland French china, flower and vine decorations, gold stippled knobs and handles, 101 pieces, including soup tureen and 8 18.98.

TEA SETS, Dresden china, pink rose, wreath, decoration and gold tracings, 50 pieces, reg. \$8.00, sale price, \$4.98.

FISH AND GAME SETS, of Theo. Haviland French china, artistically decorated with fish or game, rich gold border; reg. \$85.00, sale price, \$18.98.

French & Austrian China.

PUDDING SETS, of Carlsbad china; reg. \$18.00, sale price, \$9.98.

COVERED VEGETABLE DISHES, of French china, handsomely decorated; reg. \$2.00, sale price, \$1.75.

CRACKER JARS, German china, reg. \$1.00, sale price, \$49c.

CABARETS, Austrian china, neat decorations; reg. \$1.40, sale price, \$98c.

ART PLATES, French china, hand painted; reg. \$1.00, sale price, \$19c.

DINNER SETS, Theodore Haviland French china, flower and vine decorations, gold stippled knobs and handles, 101 pieces, including soup tureen and 8 18.98.

CUPS AND SAUCERS, Theo. Haviland French china, hand painted; reg. \$1.00, sale price, \$19c.

CUPS AND SAUCERS, Carlsbad china, 6 decorations; reg. \$2.00, sale price, \$10c.

OLIVE DISHES, with handle, German china, fancy design, neat, decorated; reg. \$5.00, sale price, \$25c.

French & German China, richly decorated.

Ring Tr